

NOTES ON GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION

Amphibia, Anura, Bufonidae, *Melanophryniscus devincenzii*: First record for Paraguay and geographic distribution map

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The red-belly toad *Melanophryniscus devincenzii* Klappenbach, 1968 belongs to the *M. tumifrons* group, occurring in Misiones province (Argentina), state of Rio Grande do Sul (Brazil), and northern Uruguay (Zanella et al. 2007). Brusquetti and Lavilla (2006) speculated about its presence in Paraguay, due to the proximity of populations in Misiones province and the continuity of available habitats. Herein, we present the first record of *M. devincenzii* for Paraguay, extending its known distribution range ca. 180 km northwards from Puerto San Juan, Misiones, Argentina (Baldo and Basso 2004), and

we provide a geographic distribution map with all known localities for this species.

The new record of *M. devincenzii* corresponds to a male collected near to the Pirapo'i stream (25°55' S, 56°09' W, 260 m a.s.l.), Finca 2400 of *Naturaleza Pura S.A., Reserva de Recursos Manejados del Ybyturuzú*, Distrito Independencia, Guairá Department, Paraguay, on October 24 2008. The specimen is deposited in the Zoology Collection of the Facultad de Ciencias Exactas y Naturales, *Universidad Nacional de Asunción*, Asunción, Paraguay (CZCEN049) (Figure 1).

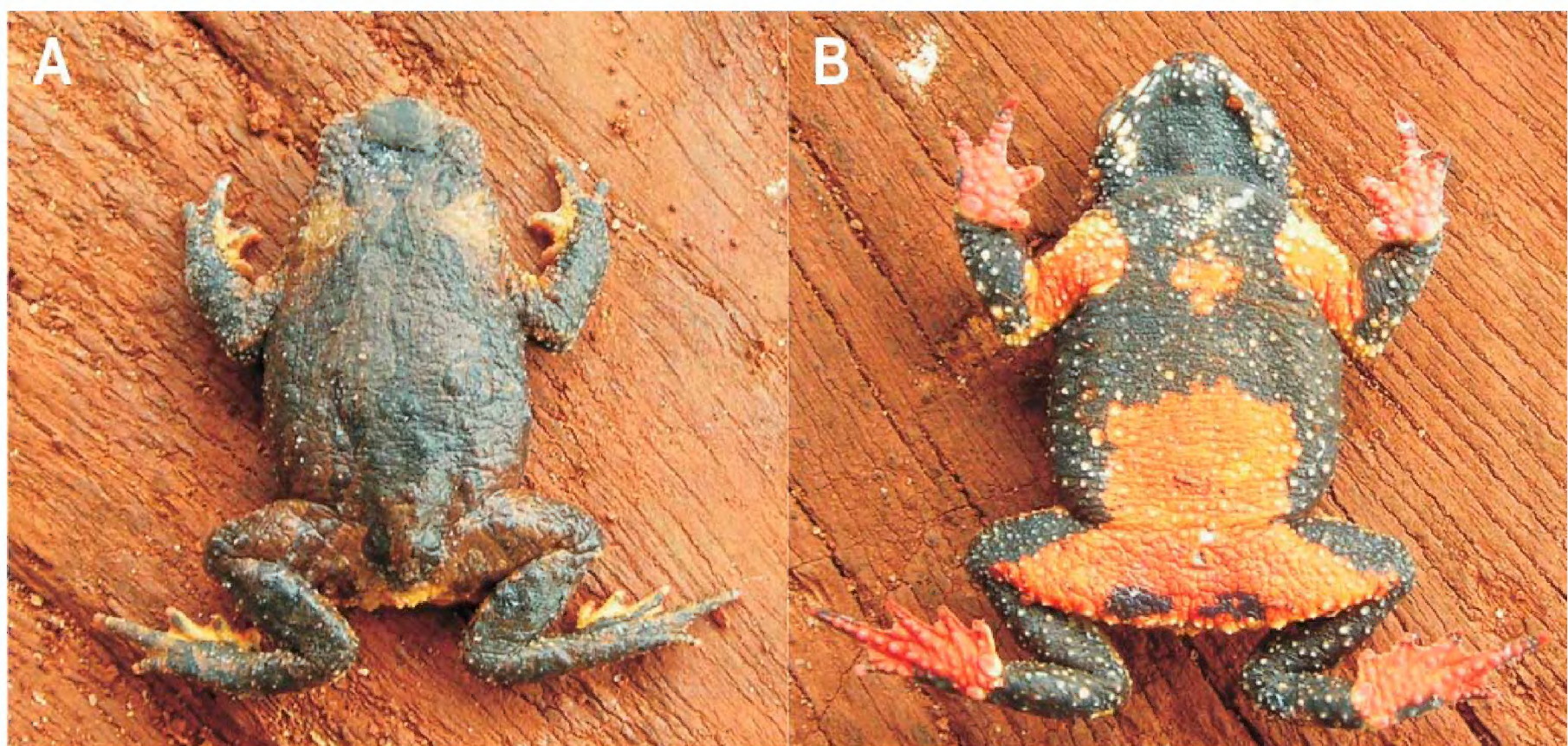


Figure 1. Dorsal (A) and ventral (B) views of *Melanophryniscus devincenzii*, adult male (CZCEN 049), from Pirapo'i stream, *Reserva de Recursos Manejados del Ybyturuzú*, Guairá Department, Paraguay.

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The Pirapo'i stream is a tributary of the Tebicuary-mi River that originates on the slopes of Tres Candú hill (842 m a.s.l.), in the Ybyturuzú mountain systems (Figure 2). This region belongs to the Atlantic Forest ecoregion (Dinerstein et al. 1995; Olson et al. 2001).



Figure 2. View of the Tres Candú hill, Ybyturuzú mountain systems, Paraguay.

Melanophryniscus devincenzii is considered as “*Endangered*” by the IUCN, because its area of occupancy is less than 500 km², its distribution is severely fragmented, and there is continuing decline in the extent and quality of its habitat in Argentina and Uruguay (Lavilla et al. 2004). However, the recent record of this species in Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil (Zanella et al. 2006), and the present one for Paraguay largely increases its

known and potential distribution range (Figure 3), which would allow a reassessment of its conservation status.

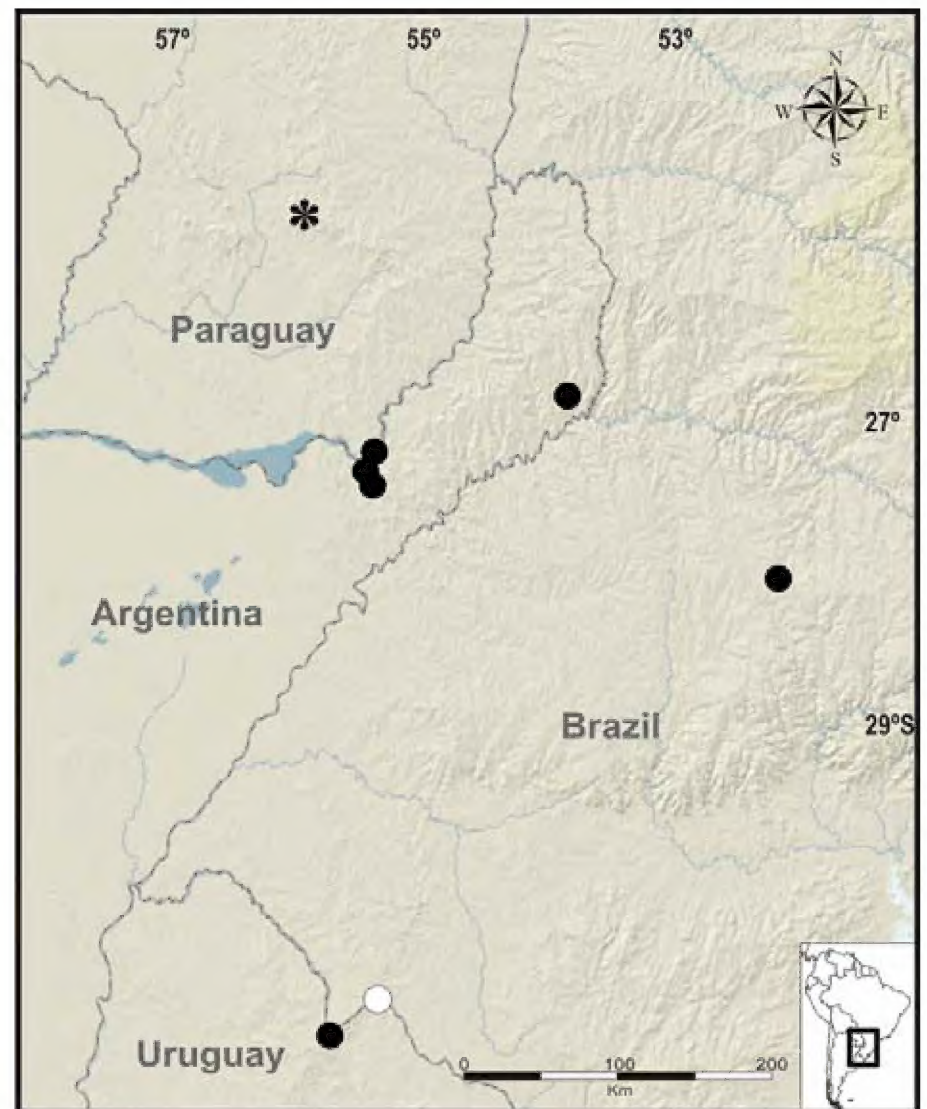


Figure 3. Geographic distribution of *Melanophryniscus devincenzii*. New record from Paraguay (asterisk); historical records (black circles) (Klappenbach 1968; Baldo and Basso 2004; Zanella et al. 2007), type locality (white circle) (Klappenbach 1968).

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